

## Dela Rosa to exhaust all legal means vs ICC arrest

*Finds refuge under Senate protective custody*

By HANNAH L. TORREGOZA, DHEL NAZARIO, and ARGYLL CYRUS GEDUCOS

After his tumultuous return to the Senate on Monday, May 11, embattled Senator Ronald "Bato" dela Rosa vowed on Tuesday, May 12, to exhaust all available legal means to keep him from being taken to The Hague to face charges before the International Criminal Court (ICC).

"We will exhaust all available means, legal means. Kailangan gawin natin lahat para hindi na tayo madala doon sa The Hague (We need to do everything so that we will no longer be taken to The Hague)," Dela Rosa told reporters.

The senator stayed overnight at the Senate after making a surprise return during Monday's plenary session, just in time for the change in leadership with Cayetano replacing Sotto.

Clad in slippers, a plain shirt, and shorts, dela Rosa told reporters that he was able to get some sleep.

"Nakatulog rin kahit papaano (I was able to get some sleep)," he said.

Wounded and in a rage, dela Rosa showed up on the plenary floor on Monday, claiming that he had to wrestle his way into the room after he was chased by members of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI). A footage of the chase down was later released during the session.

Dela Rosa said that he would continue attending Senate sessions ▶7



UNDER SIEGE – Senator Ronald 'Bato' dela Rosa speaks to the media on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, outside his office at the Senate in Pasay City where he spent the night after being taken into protective custody by the Upper House on Monday, May 11, 2026. (Mark Balmores)

## Cayetano: Senate to act 'forthwith' on VP impeachment case

By HANNAH L. TORREGOZA, ELLSON QUISMORIO, and ELLALYN DE VERA-RUIZ

Newly-elected Senate President Alan Peter Cayetano assured on Tuesday, May 12 that the Senate, under his

leadership, will act on the Articles of Impeachment against Vice President Sara Duterte "forthwith" and without unnecessary delay.

Cayetano said the institution will fully comply with its constitutional duties while ensuring proper ▶7

## Palace: No destabilization plot monitored, but we know where it's coming from

By BETHEENA UNITE

While Malacañang said no destabilization efforts are currently being monitored, it was nevertheless aware where the plot is coming from.

Palace Press Officer and Communications Undersecretary Claire

Castro said there was nothing new about reports on destabilization plots against the government.

However, without naming names, she said they knew who were behind the plots, and who the plotters would want to put in power if they succeed.

"Ngayon, wala po tayong nadinig na anumang plano na destabil

laban sa gobyerno pero even before naman, e hindi lang naman ngayon 'yan (Right now, we have not monitored any plan to destabilize the government, but it has happened even before, this is not something new)," Castro said in an ambush interview on Tuesday, May 12.

"Alam naman natin kung saan nanggagaling 'yan at alam ▶7

## Rice imports up 18% at end-April amid El Niño fears

By DEXTER BARRO II

The Philippines expanded its rice importation by 18 percent to 1.7 million metric tons (MT) during the first four months of 2026 as the government looks to bolster the supply of the commodity amid expectations of lower output in the coming months.

The latest Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) data showed that the country's rice imports increased to 1.68 million MT from January to April, compared to 1.42 million MT in the same period last year. ▶7



SUMMER RITE OF PASSAGE – A boy covers his face as he undergoes circumcision at the Marikina City's free circumcision program held at the Marikina Convention Center on Tuesday, May 12, 2026. The initiative seeks to promote proper hygiene, prevent health complications, and provide accessible healthcare services to young boys in the city. (Santi San Juan)

## 4 Filipino crew members of virus-stricken cruise ship arrive in Netherlands

By BETHEENA UNITE and JEL SANTOS

Four of the 38 Filipino crew members of the MV Hondius, the cruise ship that was hit by a hantavirus outbreak, have arrived in Eindhoven, Netherlands, the Philippine Embassy in The Hague said.

According to the embassy, the Filipino crew members arrived in Eindhoven on Sunday night.

They are the crew members of MV Hondius, who were on the flight arranged by the Netherlands government from Tenerife in Spain's Canary Islands.

The Filipino crew members will undergo a six-week quarantine as prescribed by World Health Organization (WHO) protocols.

The embassy said the Netherlands government has arranged facilities for their quarantine.

A second batch consisting of 17 crew members will be on the next evacuation flight, and is expected to leave Monday from Tenerife to the Netherlands, the embassy further said.

The remaining 17 crew members, who are regular deck and engine crew, will sail the vessel from Tenerife to Rotterdam, Netherlands, and will also undergo the six-week quarantine.

After completing their respective quarantines, the Philippine local manning agency shall arrange the crew members' repatriation flight to the Philippines, the embassy said. ▶7



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